

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 07626 140900Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
NSC-05 /066 W
-----098347 141349Z /46

R 140821Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1481
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EAIR, TH
SUBJ: CIVAIR: RTG DEVELOPMENTS

REF: BANGKOK 6973

1. IN MARCH 13 DISCUSSION OF RTG CIVAIR DEVELOPMENTS WITH
VALUED MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS SOURCE (WHO FLEW AMBER ONE
PROVING FLIGHTS MARCH 11-12), FOLLOWING POINTS EMERGED:
A. THAI INTER PROVING FLIGHTS MARCH 11 AND 12, AS WELL AS
CATHAY PACIFIC FLIGHT MARCH 11 (BANGKOK 6974), OPERATED
WITHOUT A HITCH. FLIGHT TIME TO HONG KONG WAS TWO HOURS
15 MINUTES, AS CONTRASTED WITH THREE HOURS 45 MINUTES ON
R-85. THAILAND DOES NOT INTEND TO RAISE WITH PRC ISSUE OF
RE-OPENING AMBER TWO ROUTE OVER HAINAN ISLAND. AS PRACTICAL
MATTER, BOUNDARIES OF NEW AMBER ONE ARE SUCH THAT RE-
OPENING OF AMBER TWO WOULD CUT ONLY SEVEN MINUTES FROM
BANGKOK/HONG KONG FLYING TIME ON AMBER ONE. THAI OFFICIALS
UNDERSTAND, ON BASIS TALKS WITH SRV OFFICIALS, THAT SRV
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WILL CEASE SUPPLYING FLIGHT INFORMATION TO AIRCRAFT ON
R-85 AFTER AMBER ONE BECOMES FULLY OPERATIONAL.

?. RTG DELEGATION HOPES TO VISIT HANOI ABOUT APRIL 1
FOR TALKS ON OPENING BANGKOK/VIENTIANE/HANOI ROUTE, WHICH
WOULD USE THAI AIRWAYS' AGING AVRO AIRPLANES. THAI SEE
HANOI AS POTENTIALLY LUCRATIVE ROUTE FOR ONE OR TWO SER-

VICES PER WEEK, WITH JAPANESE, SCANDINAVIANS, GERMANS, AND FRENCH, IN THAT ORDER, PROVIDING BULK OF PASSENGERS. SCANDINAVIAN AID CARGOES ARE ALSO VIEWED AS VALUABLE SOURCE OF REVENUE. AIR VIETNAM DOES NOT PLAN TO OPERATE TO BANGKOK IN NEAR FUTURE. THAI MIGHT SEEK TO OPEN BANGKOK/SAIGON SERVICE IF HANOI SERVICE PROVES SUCCESSFUL.

C. THAI INTERNATIONAL AIRWAYS OFFICIALS ARE LEANING STRONGLY TOWARD PURCHASE FROM BOEING OF TWO 747 AIRCRAFT TO OPERATE ON ONE OF THREE ROUTES: (1) BANGKOK/TOKYO/HONOLULU; (2) BANGKOK/TOKYO/SEATTLE; (3) BANGKOK/TOKYO/NEW YORK, WITH TECHNICAL STOPS AT ANCHORAGE OR SEATTLE. MOST OFFICIALS FAVOR ROUTE 3.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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